GOVERNMENT OF INDIA
AGRICULTURE
LOK SABHA

STARRED QUESTION NO:285
ANSWERED ON:19.03.2007
EMPLOYMENT OPPORTUNITIES IN AGRICULTURE SECTOR
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Will the Minister of AGRICULTURE be pleased to state:

(a) the number of agriculturists, agricultural land owners and agricultural labourers in the country recorded at the end of each of the last two Five Year Plan, State-wise;

(b) the details of employment generated in Agriculture and Animal Husbandry Sectors in each State during the Tenth Five Year Plan, State-wise and year-wise;

(c) whether the Union Government proposes to promote agriculture for employment generation during the Eleventh Plan;

(d) if so, whether any target has been fixed therefor;

(e) if so, the details thereof and the action plan chalked out for the same; and

(f) the allocation of funds for the purpose?

Answer

MINISTER OF AGRICULTURE (SHRI SHARAD PAWAR)

(a) to (f): A statement is laid on the Table of the House.

STATEMENT REFERRED TO IN REPLY TO PARTS (a) TO (f) OF LOK SABHA STARRED QUESTION NO. 285 DUE FOR REPLY ON 19TH MARCH, 2007.

(a) : As per Population Census data released by the Registrar General of India, the details of State- wise agricultural workers comprising cultivators and agricultural labourers in the census 1991 and 2001 are given below:

(in thousand numbers)

State	Cultivators		Agricultural Labourers		Total	
	1991	2001	1991	2001	1991	2001
Andhra Pradesh	8292	7860	12517	13832	20809	21692
Arunachal Pr.	243	279	22	19	264	298
Assam	4429	3731	1017	1264	5444	4994
Bihar	8105	8194	8633	13418	16738	21611
Goa	69	50	45	36	105	86
Gujarat	5604	5803	4507	5162	10112	10964
Haryana	2091	3018	1007	1279	3098	4297
Himachal Pr.	1537	1955	75	94	1612	2049
Jammu & Kashmir	0	1592	0	246	0	1838
Karnataka	6692	6884	5653	6227	12346	13111
Kerala	1206	724	2450	1621	3656	2345
Madhya Pradesh	10028	11038	5041	7401	15069	18439
Maharashtra	11542	11813	9533	10815	21075	22629
Manipur	464	380	80	114	544	493
Meghalaya	426	467	98	172	524	639
Mizoram	210	256	18	27	228	283
Nagaland	375	549	8	31	383	580
Orissa	5041	4248	3906	4999	8947	9247
Punjab	1984	2065	1543	1490	3527	3555
Rajasthan	10445	13140	2204	2524	12649	15664
Sikkim	98	131	14	17	112	148
Tamil Nadu	6043	5116	8757	8638	14800	13754

Tripura	334	313	208	276	543	589
Uttar Pradesh	22417	22168	8743	13401	31160	35568
West Bengal	6407	5654	5482	7363	11889	13017
A & N Islands	18	21	7	5	24	27
Chandigarh	2	2	2	1	4	3
D & N Haveli	46	39	9	15	55	54
Daman & Diu	6	4	2	1	9	5
Delhi	34	37	28	16	62	53
Pondicherry	18	11	80	72	99	83
Uttarakhand	1637	1570	255	260	1892	1830
Chhattisgarh	4755	4311	2111	3091	6866	7402
Jharkhand	4085	3890	1937	2851	6022	6741
All India	124684	127313	85992	106775	210676	234088

(b): According to the National Sample Survey Organisation (NSSO), (61st Round) the estimated number of workers in the country employed, as per usual status, in agriculture, inter-alia, including animal husbandry has increased from 237.56 million in 1999-2000 to 238.8 million in 2004-05.

(c) to (f): Creation of employment in rural areas is one of the policy objectives of the Government. As per the Approach Paper to the Eleventh Plan, doubling the rate of growth of agricultural Gross Domestic Product (GDP) at 4% per annum will improve rural employment conditions by raising rural wages and reducing unemployment. However, to reduce the dependence of work force on agriculture, it has been envisaged that opportunities will also be created in the non-farm activities in rural areas. Nevertheless, for the agriculture sector, a series of policy initiatives and programmes/ schemes have been taken in vital areas like credit, irrigation facilities, crop diversification, marketing infrastructure, horticulture and extension services to boost investment in agriculture and allied sectors. Efforts are on to enhance production and productivity and to encourage farming as a remunerative profession. This process is being further strengthened through farm mechanization, agri clinics and agri business centres. Programmes have also been taken up to develop rainfed areas and encourage food processing activities. All these schemes and programmes are expected to generate additional employment opportunities in Agriculture Sector. To implement the programmes, higher outlays have been proposed for the year 2007-08, which is the first year of the 11th Five Year Plan.